APR 0 3 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MANZ et al

Serial No. 10/046,564

Filed: January 16, 2002

Atty. Ref.: 550-308

Group: 1723

Examiner: E. Therkorn

For: FLUID TRANSPORT APPARATUS AND METHOD

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April 3, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the EP Search Report references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, a copy of each of which is enclosed. This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because cited.

A copy of the Manz et al reference is not enclosed, but will be submitted as soon as it becomes available.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

Pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), a fee of \$180.00 as specified in Rule 17(p) is attached. If there is any shortage in the fee, please charge the deposit account of Nixon & Vanderhye, Account No. 14-1140.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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